

2017 Genesee County Planning Forum

Friday, February 24th
UM-Flint University Center
303 E. Kearsley St, Flint MI 48502

“Sustainable Communities and the Future of Infrastructure”

8:00 - 8:15

Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:15 - 8:25

Welcome

Alan Himelhoch, GCMPC Chairperson

8:25 - 8:35

Opening Remarks

Derek Bradshaw, GCMPC Director-Coordinator

8:35 - 8:45

Planning Innovation Awards Presentation

8:45 - 9:30

Keynote Session: Findings from Michigan's 21st Century Infrastructure Commission

Evan Pratt, Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner

9:40 - 10:30

1st Breakout Sessions

Recreation and Water Trails - Michigan Room C-D

Elizabeth Riggs, Deputy Director, Huron River Watershed Council

Planning Commissioner Basics - Michigan Room B

Andrea Brown, Director, Michigan Association of Planning (MAP)

10:35 - 11:25

2nd Breakout Sessions

Redevelopment Ready Communities - Michigan Room C-D

Michelle Parkkonen, Manager, RRC Program

Solar-Ready Communities - Michigan Room B

Sean Reed, Founder & Executive Director, Clean Energy Coalition



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11:30 - 12:20

3rd Breakout Sessions

Using Asset Management for Smart Infrastructure

Investments - Michigan Room C-D

Roger Belknap, Coordinator, Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC)

Municipal Water System Improvements - Michigan Room B

Dima El-Gamal, PhD, Senior Associate, Stantec
David Marshke, Utilities Superintendent, City of Burton

12:20 - 12:30

Closing Remarks

GCMPC

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN
PLANNING COMMISSION

An Equal Opportunity Organization

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“Sustainable Communities and the Future of Infrastructure”

Session Descriptions

Keynote Session: Findings from Michigan’s 21st Century Infrastructure Commission

In March 2016, Gov. Rick Snyder created the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission, which developed a list of 110 solutions to improve Michigan’s infrastructure and enhance the quality of life for all Michiganders. Improved infrastructure systems mean healthier communities, better-paying jobs, and a stronger foundation for our kids in every region of the state. But if we keep waiting, the cost to update Michigan’s infrastructure and ensure a high-quality of life for years to come will only become more expensive. The 21st Century Infrastructure Commission worked diligently to provide a long-term infrastructure strategy that addresses Michigan’s needs for the next 30-50 years in the areas of transportation, water, sewer, stormwater, wastewater treatment and drainage, energy, and communications. The legislature is taking the first step of many to form a State Asset Management Council for the purpose of coordinating many efforts. Evan Pratt was appointed to the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission in 2016, bringing a vast amount of knowledge in municipal infrastructure, most recently serving as the Water Resources Commissioner for Washtenaw County.

Recreation and Water Trails

RiverUp! is the signature placemaking initiative for the Huron River and its communities. It is a plan for the river’s future – a strategy to realize the goal of becoming a premier destination in Michigan and the Great Lakes. A public and private partnership works to restore the river and assist communities in maximizing the river as an asset to attract residents, visitors, and businesses.

Planning Commissioner Basics

This session covers the foundational information a planning commissioner should know before ever making a decision, and provides a sound refresher for more seasoned officials. We’ll look at everything from roles and responsibilities, legal basics, preparing for and conducting meetings, and decision making best practices to processing applications for site plans, special exception uses and rezoning. Inspired by MAP’s popular Planning Commissioners Toolkit, this comprehensive overview will prepare you to participate knowledgeably at meetings.

Redevelopment Ready Communities

To be vibrant and competitive, Michigan communities must be ready for development. This involves planning for new investment and reinvestment, identifying assets and opportunities and focusing limited resources. Join us for this interactive session to find out how your community can get involved in the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) program and make the most of it.

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Solar-Ready Communities

This session will cover practical issues relating to why you should become a solar ready community; which of your peers are leading the way by currently doing so; and the concrete steps involved in becoming solar ready. The Clean Energy Coalition is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting clean energy technologies as a way to create healthier, energy independent communities.

Using Asset Management for Smart Infrastructure Investments

The Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) was created by the Michigan Legislature in 2002 (Public Act 499 of 2002) for the purposes of standardizing road and bridge condition reporting and to further expand the knowledge and use of asset management principles. The purpose of this presentation is to inform the audience of current TAMC activities and upcoming work program priorities, report noteworthy achievements and learning, and advise guests on some of the unique asset management applications that agencies across Michigan have implemented.

Municipal Water System Improvements

Stantec and the City of Burton have worked together to make major improvements to the city's water and sanitary systems in recent years. Aging water and sewer infrastructure is an issue many municipalities are currently facing, pushing officials to come up with new and innovative ways to make improvements. This session will review the City of Burton's improvements—including various funding mechanisms and ways to think outside the box.